Losses incurred by tourism industry due to terrorism

†217. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleaded to state:

(a) the effects of the terrorist attack in Mumbai on the tourism industry of the country and the details of losses incurred by the tourism industry due to it;

(b) the number of foreign tourists visiting India after the terrorist attack in Mumbai country-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to bail out the tourism industry from this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) The Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) and Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEE) from tourism in India during November 2008, December 2008 and January 2009 and the corresponding months of the previous year are given below.

Month	FTAs (million)	FEE (US$ million)	Month	FTAs (million)	FEE (US$ million)
November 2008	0.52	1005	November 2007	0.53	1149
December 2008	0.52	1046	December 2007	0.60	1287
January 2009	0.49	941	January 2008	0.59	1382

The lower FTAs and FEE in recent months may be due to various reasons including global financial meltdown and terrorist activities.

Data on country-wise FTAs in India during 2008 are not available.

(c) To minimize the negative impact of recent terrorist attacks in the country, Ministry of Tourism has taken the following steps:-

- All States have been requested to beef up security measures in hotels and at tourist sites in their respective States;
- Indiatourism offices overseas are in regular contact with the international media and travel trade to keep them updated on the ground situation in the country.
- Familiarsation Tours for trade and media representatives to Mumbai and other regions of the country have been specially organized to project the ground realities relating to safety/ security conditions in the country. Trade/ Media representatives from USA, UK, Ireland, France, Germany, Austria, Netherlands, Argentina, Mexico, South Africa, Japan, Malaysia and Singapore have visited India during the months of December 2008 and January 2009 as a result of this initiative.

Development of barrier-free tourist destinations

218. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to develop tourist destinations barrier-free for the benefit of physically challenged and elderly persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) whether these are proposed to be made mandatory; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) With a view to ensure that persons with disabilities and elderly visitors also get access to tourist destinations, the Ministry of Tourism has issued direction to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to provide barrier-free features in buildings/facilities that are constructed with financial assistance from the Ministry under its scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits.

Religious destinations in tourism development plan

219. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of religious destinations which have been included in Tourism Development Plan alongwith names of places, State-wise;

(b) how much money is being spent on each destination; and

(c) what is the future plan?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Development of tourist places including places of worship is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, during the last two years (2006-07, 2007-08) the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned 555 projects for development and promotion of tourism in the country including pilgrim sites. The State-wise details are at Statement (*See* below).

Statement

The projects sanctioned by Ministry of Tourism from 2006-07 to 2007-08

(Rs. In Lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2006-07		2007-08	
		No of Projects Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned	No of Projects Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	3	1540.56	9	2629.48
2	Assam	9	2453.39	5	1271.90
3	Arunachal Pradesh	12	1887.80	10	3330.12
4	Bihar	2	1937.29	3	1194.75
5	Chhattisgarh	16	3540.17	4	1274.09
6	Goa	0	0.00	0	0.00
7	Gujarat	7	443.65	5	576.58
8	Haryana	5	1836.16	11	2260.27
9	Himachal Pradesh	8	1871.00	12	2286.22